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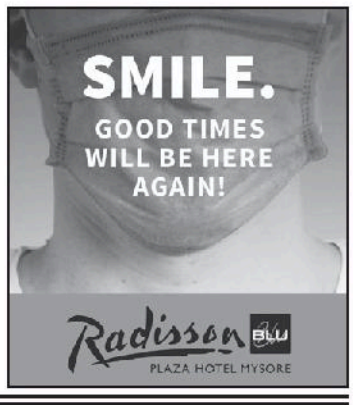

Life-saving business of ambulance-making

City turns vehicle-conversion hub for Mandya, Hassan, Chamarajanagar and Kodagu

The interiors of a Tempo Traveller modified after removing the seats to hold foldable bed.

By M.T. Yogesh Kumar

Mysuru, June 13- With the increasing demand for hospital beds as well as ambulances amid the massive surge in COVID-19 cases, there are many enterprising businessmen who have taken up the task of converting tourist and other passenger vehicles into ambulances. And Mysuru city has become a hub of ambulance-making for districts like Mysuru, Mandya, Hassan, Chamarajanagar and Kodagu.

Treated specially by the Government agencies in the districts as essential service, the ambulance-making business has given a new lease of life for tourism vehicles that have been sitting idle as the entire tourism sector has been shut and there is no chance of revival in the next couple of months.

While there are many vehicle-converters who are making minimum changes to the tourist vehicles after removing the seats to convert the vehicle as hearse vans, some workers are giving the vehicle a total makeover, transforming the tourist vehicles into full-fledged ambulances complete with foldable beds, mini-ventilators, and oxygen supply connections and with sirens and siren lamps.

Though the Health Department has been making efforts to provide ambulances and other vehicles and infrastructure to cater to the people affected by the pandemic, at times it gets stuck as the demand is more when the infected cases pile up requiring immediate attention and transportation to hospitals with oxygen necessity.

(See AMBULANCE on page 6)

Egg sales ride on COVID wave

Mysuru, June 13 (MTY & BCT)- The COVID-19 pandemic seems to have egged on the people of Mysuru into consuming more eggs as consumption has doubled from 2.5 to 3 lakh eggs per day to 5.5 to 6 lakh. They have indeed turned Mysureans' newfound love during lockdown.

Egg is among the protein-rich foods prescribed for patients and is the cheapest source of protein available to people. The consumption of key poultry product to boost immunity amid the second wave has increased as even the doctors are recommending patients to have eggs for the body to increase resistance power.

It has been included in the regular hospital diet along with lunch and dinner, especially for the patients who are on the road for recovery. Experts attributed the increase to growing awareness among the people about eggs being a good source of protein and other essential nutrients, besides containing Vitamin-A, Vitamin B-12 and Selenium, which are key to keep the immune system healthy.

The revival in demand amid tight supplies led to an increase in retail prices to Rs. 6 to Rs. 6.50 per egg depending on the areas and in residential pockets, per egg is costing Rs. 7. For 100 eggs, the prices have increased from Rs. 350 to Rs. 400 to Rs. 400 to Rs. 550.

V. Seshanarayana, sales promotion officer of National Egg Coordination Committee (NECC), Mysuru, told *Star of Mysore* this morning that before COVID, Mysureans used to consume 2 lakh eggs per day and now the consumption has shot up. "The demand has peaked despite bakeries and roadside eateries — largest buyers — shutting down due to lockdown. The high demand and shortage in production have caused prices to increase," he explained.

There are over 40 to 45 egg dealers in Mysuru and they push 25 lakh eggs to the market per day and the stocks go to Kerala, Tamil Nadu and even districts like Mandya, Hassan and Kodagu. "Many poultry units have shut due to COVID, labour shortage, pricey poultry feed and other factors and the egg production has come down to 10 to 15 lakh eggs per day. Also, poultry feed is not coming from Gujarat and Rajasthan. As such, new batches of poultry have not been released to the farms," Seshanarayana said.

The supply of eggs is tight as poultry farms are not operating at their full capacity in many parts of the country after bird flu early this year, COVID-induced restrictions and other reasons like rising feed cost, he added.

Vendors said the poultry industry was impacted badly during April-May 2020 due to the lockdown as demand for both eggs and chicken declined. However, he said demand revived between June and December last year. "The demand got again impacted due to unfounded reports of bird flu outbreak. After March this year, the demand has bounced as immunity booster caught the minds of people," a vendor said.

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Sunday 13th June 2021

UoM B.Ed Lecturers' Assn.
creates history, holds online exam

Mysuru, June 13- University of Mysore (UoM) B.Ed Lecturers' Association has created a new milestone by successfully conducting online exam. While online classes as well as internal exams are being conducted during this academic calendar due to the pandemic, over 2,100 students of 36 Colleges participated in the objective type online exam, which was conducted after taking permission from UoM.

Association Hon. President Dr. Mohan Kumar, Hemaraj of technical team and other members of the Association have worked hard for 15 days to conduct this exam. The exam, which included 15 topics for 150 marks, was held for two days.

Association Secretary Dr. Antony Paulraj had convened multiple meetings with all College Principals and lecturers who provided their valuable inputs about conducting the online exam.

Association members have thanked UoM Vice-Chancellor and Registrar for permitting them to hold the exam online.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

The Model Tenancy Act legislation approved by the Union Cabinet is an opportunity to free locked up residential apartments for the housing market. But the reform is incumbent on State legislatures using the opportunity to pass the law. Nevertheless, Centre has offered a good template for them to replicate. In mandating a rent agreement between tenant and landlord and proposing a Rent Authority to which the agreement has to be submitted, a good start has been made. Stipulations like a two month limit on security deposit for residential properties are welcome because of the propensity of landlords in some cities to demand up to 11 months' rent as security deposit, which is unfair to tenants. Submission of the rent agreement to the Rent Authority is also a good step in creating a trusted repository for the agreement. Despite State rules that urge registering of rent agreements, this isn't done because of hesitation to incur stamp duty costs. The model law proposes that the Rent Authority, Rent Courts and Rent Tribunals set up under the Act dispose of complaints in time bound fashion. This is critical to the success of any legislation. If orders get backlogged, these Courts will lose their potency as has happened with Consumer Courts. Setting up the infrastructure and providing adequate staffing will be the true test of the law's success. Though India is scaling up the World Bank ranking in ease of doing business it is lagging behind in enforcement of contracts. State Governments play a critical role here and there is only so much Centre can do.

— In The Times of India

NEWS SPARKLERS

Setting a dead hang Guinness World Records

Norway : A Norwegian man grabbed hold of a horizontal bar and assumed the dead hang position for 16 minutes and 3 seconds, beating the Guinness World Record by more than two minutes. Harald Riise managed to dangle from the bar for 16 minutes and 3 seconds in Baerum, Viken, to break the record of 13 minutes and 52 seconds, which was set by Italian man Tazio Gavioli in 2018.

"Setting a dead hang Guinness World Records title was for me the ultimate challenge. I wanted to show both myself and others that it was possible and I succeeded," said Riise, who spent more than 10 hours a week training. "Being a wheelchair user, I am dependent on my upper body strength to cope with everyday physical challenges. My ability to dead hang for instance is what gets me out of bed in the morning," he said.

Bring God's Aadhaar to sell temple produce!

Uttar Pradesh: In a bizarre incident, a priest who went to a government procurement centre to sell wheat grown in land belonging to the temple, was asked to produce the Aadhaar card of the deity. The incident took place in Kurhara village in Attara tehsil in Banda.

Mahant Ramkumar Das, the priest and chief caretaker of Ram Janki temple, said he wanted to sell 100 quintals of wheat in a government mandi. He had done the online registration with the help of others.

When he arrived at the mandi to sell the crops grown on the temple land he was asked to produce the Aadhaar card of the deity in whose name the land was registered. Seven-hectare land is registered in the name of the deity — Lord Ram and Janki. "The registration was cancelled as I could not produce the Aadhaar card, where do I get Aadhaar of the Lord?" he asked.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Acne is not just a teenage problem: Many people often think that acne is a teenage problem and it will end with their adolescence. Even adults can get acne. Excessive oil production, clogged pores by oil and dead skin cells, bacteria and inflammation majorly increases the chances of acne.

Dr. Ravi S. - Consultant Dermatologist & Cosmetologist

COLUMBIA ASIA
COLUMBIA ASIA HOSPITAL - MYSORE
A unit of ManipalHospitals

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

12 to 24 hours from mouth to rectum is an ideal transit time. To learn what your transit time is, simply eat half of a raw beet, then wait for the red colour of the beet to show up in your stool. Over 24 hours indicates a slow transit time, or constipation. Under 12 hours means you may not be absorbing nutrients properly.

COVID-19 UPDATE - MYSURU

DATES	JUNE 11	JUNE 12
Day's Positive Cases	817	482
Total Positive Cases	1,56,063	1,56,545
Day's Discharges	814	1,444
Total Discharges	1,39,856	1,41,300
Day's Deaths	20	20
Total Deaths	1,814	1,834
Total Active Cases	14,393	13,411

NOTE: Figures as per Government Media Bulletin

COVID: Vaccination drive
for hotel staff from tomorrow

Mysuru, June 13- The Office of the Food Safety and Standards officer, in association with Health and Family Welfare Department, will be holding a three day COVID vaccination drive for staff of hotels (aged 18 to 44 years) coming under city limits from June 14 to 16.

The vaccination drive will take place at the People's Park School / PU College premises in Nazarbad, close to Sub-urban Bus Stand from 10 am to 1 pm on all the three days.

The vaccination will be done only for hotel staff and workers aged between 18 and 44 years. The vaccination is capped at 250 beneficiaries a day.

REALLY...?

- ***Ancient Egyptians did not use pillows on their beds, but had a carved headboard shaped to allow their neck and head to rest on it to sleep.***
- ***The first waterbeds were goatskins filled with water, used in Persia nearly 4,000 years ago.***
- ***The first modern waterbeds were used at St. Bartholomew's Hospital in London as a way to treat and prevention of bed sores.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Husband: *Today is Sunday, a holiday, I want to enjoy the whole day. So I have bought three movie tickets.*
Wife: *Why three my dear?*
Husband: *For you and your parents!*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 73.23
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 103.31
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 19.94
1 Euro	= Rs. 88.68

VOICE OF THE READER

Let MCC clarify QR code

Sir,

After undertaking a Herculean exercise of mapping the properties by various means including taking 3D pictures of the properties etc., the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) in February this year went one step ahead and pasted QR code stickers to selected houses in Mysuru. It said that from April onwards, the property tax, water related payments, even power payments can all be made through this code.

However, this QR code never worked. Payment of water bill online remained a dream and this also proved flop. Added to this, property tax payments never happened under this QR code and with many glitches, citizens paid the property tax by various other contemporary means. Now, the question is why is that MCC wasting public money in such non-doable things? Why citizens were not kept informed when such new things are introduced?

Now, the QR code stickers have started fading away and even if MCC can have a relook, things might be away from reach. Hope, in future, MCC will not waste tax-payers money in such things and burden the people and keep taxing people year on year unscientifically.

—Vijay Hemmige
Vijayanagar Railway Layout
10.6.2021

Postpone PG Medical Entrance by one month: SC to AIIMS

New Delhi, June 13- The Supreme Court (SC) of India on Friday directed the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) to postpone the Institute of National Importance Combined Entrance Test (INI CET) 2021 exam by one month in view of the COVID-19 pandemic. The examination was scheduled to be held on June 16.

A Division Bench of Justice Indira Banerjee and Justice M.R. Shah was hearing petitions challenging the conduct of the INI CET examination. AIIMS will announce a fresh date for the examination in the due course.

AIIMS initially opposed postponing the examination arguing that it will create scarcity of doctors and an unprecedented situation, but later left it to the top Court to take a final call.

The Court said that AIIMS' decision to hold the examination on June 16 is arbitrary, without giving enough time for preparation.

"These doctors will be appearing in the exam and they do not have time for preparing it because of COVID duty. Why do not postpone the exam by a month," the bench said.

AIIMS also told the Court that if the doctors face issues, they can appear in the next exam to be held in November.

"If you do not postpone, we will pass orders," the Top Court said.

Soon after, the lawyer of AIIMS consulted the authorities and informed the Court that it is agreeable to defer the examination.

SC was hearing a PIL filed by a group of doctors for postponing the AIIMS entrance exam for PG medical courses (INI CET).

The petition sought directions to postpone the exam being conducted for admission to Post-Graduate (PG) courses in premier Government Medical Institutes in India including AIIMS, Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER) Puducherry, and National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) in Bengaluru.

The petition also pointed out the assurance given by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) while postponing the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Exam for PG (NEET PG 2021) that students will be given at least one months' time to prepare for the exam.

The INI-CET regulates admission to around 800 seats for which more than 80,000 candidates appear.

'Janasnehi' programme will continue: SP Chethan

Mysuru, June 13 (YDS&SSV)- Newly-appointed Superintendent of Police (SP) R. Chethan said he will continue 'Janasnehi,' a programme launched by his predecessor C.B. Ryshyanth aimed at having a bond between citizens and Police Department.

Talking to reporters here yesterday, he said steps would be taken to provide a good service to people without any hassles. Justice would be ensured to those who approach Police Station with complaint. Women and oppressed classes would be rendered justice and the Police system would be improved further.

The SP said, Police play an important role in controlling Corona and this has been the top priority at present. Co-operation would be extended to the District Administration to effectively implement lockdown. Thereafter, people's problems would be addressed, he added.

Chethan said that 18 Police personnel have tested positive for Coronavirus of which 17 were under home isolation and one in hospital. Lot of care has been taken to protect the health of Police personnel, he added.

Education Dept. issues guidelines for teaching of 5th to 10th standard students

Bengaluru June 13 (KMS & DM)- With the new academic year (2021-22) scheduled to start from July 1, the Department of Public Instruction has issued guidelines for teaching of students from Fifth to Tenth standards, in the wake of COVID crisis.

Accordingly, there will be online and offline classes instead of physical classes. The lessons will be taught in video mode through *Doordarshan* channel, while *FM Radio* will broadcast lessons through audio.

The Department has uploaded more than 22,000 contents of lessons for 1st to 10th std. students on the Union Government's Deeksha App. Value addition textbooks too are available on this App. The students can download all this and study lessons. This apart, the teachers can make a short video of lessons taught and share it with parents of students. Teachers are required to form class-wise *WhatsApp* group of parents and keep in touch with them to provide necessary guidelines that help children in learning. The Dept. will soon come up with the timetable for *Doordarshan* and Radio classes, a release issued by the Department said.

The release further said that teachers should educate the students and parents on how to access classes through mobile phone, internet, radio, *Doordarshan* and other platforms.

In case of students who do not have such facilities, the teachers are required to identify residents in the neighbourhood of such children and convince them on letting out their facilities for the cause of education. This apart, the students can visit their schools twice a week, during which the children will be given practice sheets and advised on the usage of such sheets. These sheets will be evaluated for the academic performance of children. Every teacher is required to take up the responsibility of teaching at least 10-15 children.

As it is necessary to briefly revise the lessons of the previous year in order to keep up the momentum of learning, a 30-day '*Sethu Bandha*' initiative has been included in the current academic year. The children will undergo online and offline exams during the last days of this initiative, for which the students have to prepare just like last year. The teachers are asked to conduct parents-teacher meeting once in a week to discuss student learning abilities. The teachers are also required to assess the student in every subject by an evaluation, the results of which must be mandatorily uploaded in the student assessment tracking system software, according to the release.

Electric two-wheelers to get more affordable as Government amends FAME-II subsidies

New Delhi, June 13 (Agencies)- In a bid to push for faster adoption and manufacturing of electric vehicles in India, the Government has announced an amendment to the FAME-II scheme for electric vehicles.

Under the amendment, the Government has increased subsidies on electric two-wheelers that will help bring down the prices by a significant margin.

According to the notification issued by the Department of Heavy Industry, the incentive for electric two-wheelers has been increased to Rs. 15,000 per kWh, a hike of Rs. 5,000 per kWh from the older subsidy rate.

The notification further states that the electric two-wheeler incentives will be up to 40 percent of the vehicle cost. In addition to the subsidy on an electric two-wheeler, the Government will also procure electric buses and three-wheelers on a large scale. The Energy Efficiency Services Ltd. (EESL) has been directed to procure three lakh electric three-wheelers, which will be implemented in various segments. Furthermore, EESL will also aggregate demand for electric buses in nine major cities including Mumbai, Pune, Chennai, Kolkata, Surat, Ahmedabad, Delhi, Hyderabad, and Bengaluru.

Out of the Rs. 10,000 crore subsidy earmarked in the FAME-II scheme, two-wheelers are the largest beneficiary but are only applicable on those vehicles that qualify under the scheme. The electric scooters need to deliver a minimum range of 80 km on a single charge and have a top speed of 40 kmph with a 250 watt or higher electric motor.

Money-lenders offer loans to take school fee

Bengaluru, June 13- Primary and Secondary Education Minister has lamented reports of some schools roping in money-lenders to loan fee amount.

Speaking to press persons here yesterday, Suresh Kumar said that reports on some schools roping in money-lenders to loan fee amount of admitted students, has come to his notice.

Stating that no one would back such a tendency, the Minister said that such reports were unheard of in the past. Asserting that this should not have happened at all, he said that the Govt. would not allow such acts. Those schools which are found to be guilty, will be served with a notice, he said and added that the matter has been brought to the notice of the CM too.

COVID-19 HELPLINE

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0821 - 2957811
0821 - 2957711
For victim's funeral contact MCC
94498 - 41195
94498 - 41196
0821 - 2418800
Telecare
2420112/113
0821 - 2330803
0821 - 2331803

MANDYA
08232 - 224248
District War Room
08232 - 229393
Maddur Taluk
08232 - 232010
Malavalli Taluk
08231 - 242277
Srirangapatna Taluk
08236 - 252029
Pandavapura Taluk
08236 - 255128
Nagamangala Taluk
08234 - 285045
K.R. Pet Taluk
08230 - 262227

KODAGU
COVID Hospital
08272 - 220606
District Helpline
08272 - 221077
Madikeri
08272 - 228396
Virajpet / Ponnampet
08274 - 256328
Somarpet
08276 - 282045

CH'NAGAR
95386-74839
1077
Kollegal Taluk
08224 - 252046
Gundlupet Taluk
08229 - 222225
Yelandur Taluk
08226 - 240029
Hanur Taluk
08224 - 268032

For **COVID ASSIST** log on to website:
https://starofmysore.com/star-covid-assist/

Bizman's murder: Two youths arrested within 24 hours

Mysuru, June 13 (YDS&KS)- Yelwal Police have arrested two youths (natives of Rajasthan) on charges of murdering businessman Ravish, at a vacant building in Adishwar Nagar here on June 9. The arrests were made within 24 hours of the crime.

The arrested are Tejmal Raik and Prakash, while the murdered victim is Ravish, a native of Pandavapura taluk, who was residing at Adishwara Nagar near Basavanapura in the taluk.

Tejmal Raik

Prakash

Details: Tejmal and Ravish were partners for the mobile phone shop and DTH service centre at Hootagalli. Recently, there were some financial dispute between Tejmal and Ravish and Tejmal had asked Ravish to give back his share which had led to a fight between them.

Angered over this, Tejmal, along with Prakash, had allegedly hatched a plot to eliminate Ravish and on June 9, Tejmal, in the guise of giving a party for his birthday, brought Ravish to the vacant building at Adishwar Nagar, where Ravish, along with Tejmal and Prakash, consumed liquor. Later, in a drunken stupor, Tejmal and Prakash hit Ravish's head and chin with a cricket bat and killed him.

Following the murder, Superintendent of Police (SP) R. Chethan had issued instructions and under the guidance of Additional SP (ASP) R. Shivakumar, a special Police team, comprising Mysuru Rural Dy.SP Dr. A.R. Sumeet, Inspector M. Mahesh, Sub-Inspector H.K. Nikitha, Head Constable K. Ravikumar and Constable M.B. Dharma, was formed.

The Special Police Team, on June 11, arrested Tejmal and Prakash in city and subjected them to interrogation, during which the accused revealed the truth. Based on the information provided by the accused, the Police have seized the cricket bat and a two-wheeler (KA-09-JA-3794) used for the crime.

Assistant Sub-Inspector C. Jagadish and staff Girish, Rajegowda, Ningarajegowda, Dileep and drivers Arunesh and Mahadevaswamy, too took part in the nabbing operation.

Eight Cops suspended in Virajpet for man's death

Virajpet/ Madikeri, June 13 (Manju, Prasad&KS)- Eight Police personnel, attached to Virajpet Police Station, have been suspended in connection with the death of a mentally challenged man, who was allegedly beaten by them. A case of murder has been registered against them.

The deceased has been identified as Roy D'Souza (50), a resident of Chikkapet in Virajpet. Roy is also said to be an epilepsy patient.

Following guidelines from the National Human Rights Commission, Taluk Magistrate conducted mahazar and has handed over the case to the CID to conduct investigation. The CID officials who landed in Virajpet last night, have commenced their investigation this morning.

Details: On the night of June 9, Roy, who left the house along with a knife, attacked Constable Sangamesh with the knife

Roy D'Souza

in front of a petrol bunk, opposite the Police Station.

Sangamesh, who got injured on his hand, fell from the bike and ran to the Police Station only to be chased by Roy. A CCTV camera, installed in the petrol bunk, has captured the incident.

Meanwhile, Police personnel, irked over the attack on their colleague, reportedly caught hold of Roy and allegedly beat him black and blue resulting in Roy collapsing on the ground. The Police then went to the house of Roy in their vehicle and brought his mother Metilda Lobo D'Souza to the Police Station and sent Roy along with her.

According to Roy's brother Robin, on June 10, Roy was taken to a private hospital in Virajpet for treatment and following advice from the doctors, he was shifted to a private hospital at Madikeri, where he was admitted in an ICU and put on ventilator. But Roy succumbed to injuries yesterday (June 12), Robin added.

Following the death, members and leaders of Christian community staged a protest near the Police Station demanding action against the erring Police personnel. Dy.SP C.T. Jayakumar, who arrived at the spot, spoke with the protesters and told them that the higher officials would take action against the culprits following which the protest was withdrawn.

Senior citizen goes missing

Mysuru, June 13 (SPN&KS)- A 78-year-old man, who left his house on June 9 at about 1 pm, saying that he was going out on some work, has since gone missing, according to the complaint from Mahadeva, son of the missing person. The missing person is Mahadevaiah. Those having any information about Mahadevaiah may contact Mob: 80508-00425 or Police Control Room on Ph: 0821-2418339.

Mahadevaiah

Obituary

C.N. Krishna Rao

Mysuru, June 13- C.N. Krishna Rao (97), a freedom fighter and a resident of J.P. Nagar here, passed away this morning in city.

He leaves behind four daughters, sons-in-law, grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were performed at the foot of Chamundi Hill this afternoon.

Yakoob Shariff

Yakoob Shariff (67), son of late M.K. Dawood Shariff and a resident of Subashnagar, passed away yesterday evening at a private hospital in city following brief illness.

He leaves behind his wife, one daughter, one son and a host of relatives and friends.

Namaz-e-Janaza and burial took place yesterday in city.

COVID guidelines violations

666 vehicles seized in three days

Mysuru, June 13 (KS)- Mysuru City Police, who are strictly enforcing the COVID guidelines in city to prevent the spread of the deadly virus, have seized a total of 666 vehicles in the past three days for violating the lockdown guidelines.

On June 10, a total of 213 vehicles including 153 two-wheelers, 46 cars and 14 auto-rickshaws were seized followed by 230 vehicles including 188 two-wheelers, 31 cars and 11 auto-rickshaws on June 11. On June 12, the Cops have seized a total of 223 vehicles including

181 two-wheelers, 28 cars and 14 auto-rickshaws.

City Police Commissioner Dr. Chandragupta has urged the public not to move around unnecessarily during lockdown hours and to co-operate with the Police to contain the spread of COVID.

It's curtains for city's favourite LAKSHMI

Hoots and whistles reverberated inside the Theatre for 72 years

Mysuru, June 13 (MK&BCT)- Single screen theatres have come under a cloud of uncertainty. The COVID pandemic has hit them hard in more ways than can be imagined. Recurring costs, staff salaries, high taxes and zero incomes proved to be the last nail in the coffin.

Joining the list of theatres that have shut down in Mysuru is Lakshmi Theatre on the Chamaraja Double Road. In financial distress since the last one-and-a-half years, the Theatre is now all set to be relegated to the pages of history after serving Mysuru for 72 years — from 1949. Many can vividly recall the hoots and whistles erupting in this theatre for many years when super hit movies are screened.

Hailed as a favourite cinema among film stars and the common man alike, Lakshmi Theatre had carved a niche of its own and many old-timers still call the Chamaraja Double Road as 'Lakshmi Theatre Road' and though many buildings sprang up at every nook and corner of the road, this theatre structure had maintained its distinct identity with 'Lakshmi' embossed right on the top of the building.

Cinema stars including Dr. Rajkumar, Dr. Vishnuvardhan, Ambarish, N.T. Ramarao and J. Jayalalithaa have visited the Theatre in their glorious hey-days. Lakshmi Theatre was initially started by Bombay-based entrepreneurs and it was purchased by Mysureans Srikantan and his friend K. Ramarao. At present, Srikantan's son Jayanth Subramanya and Ramarao's son Prakash ran the theatre along with Manmul of Sharada Movies Group, Bengaluru.

NO INCOME

"Screening of movies at Lakshmi has stopped ever since COVID has invaded our lives and there is absolutely no income and despite this, we are paying huge taxes to the Government. We are planning to build a shopping complex or an open market in the place. Most of the people who were regulars to cinema halls are now watching movies online or through various apps and our survival looks bleak," Jayanth Subramanya told *Star of Mysore*.

Lakshmi Theatre joins the list of theatres including Opera Talkies on Sri Harsha Road, Ranjit Theatre on B.N. Road, Vidyaranya, Ganesha, Shalimar, Srinivasa, Rathna, Shanthala, Sri Nagaraj and Shree.

FAMILY IDENTITY

Ownership of single-screen movie halls has become part of the family identity with the family's fortunes and future prospects tied inextricably to show business. "This is a family business and we have sustained for years. Though the property belongs to us and we need not pay rent, there are other expenses including the burdensome taxes. At this rate, how can we survive? Every industry in the country is bleeding. How long can you stay on the treadmill when you're sapped off all energy," Jayanth Subramanya asks.

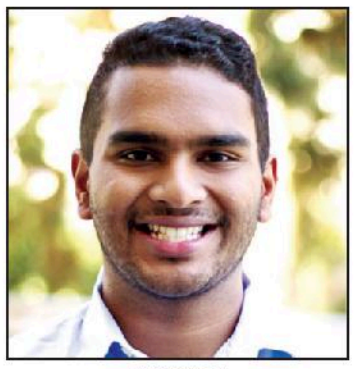
UNFAIRLY TREATED

M.R. Rajaram, Vice-President, Karnataka Film Exhibitors' Federation, said: "Soon there will be no single-screen theatres in Mysuru as ever since the pandemic struck, there has been no assistance either from the State or the Centre. We are paying taxes despite being out of business since the last one year and there is no sign of relief from the Government. What is the use in giving Rs. 3,000 for cinema theatre workers? Is it possible to survive with Rs. 50 per day? What about the other days," he asked.

When compared to Bengaluru, Mysuru pays more taxes. Is Mysuru bigger than Bengaluru? Last year, Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) levied full tax. These steps are detrimental to the very survival of theatres and in the coming days, more and more theatres will be shut, Rajaram added.

Indian-Origin Journalists win Pulitzer Prize

Megha Rajagopalan



Neil Bedi

New York, June 13 (Agencies)- Megha Rajagopalan, an Indian-origin journalist, along with two contributors, has won the Pulitzer Prize for innovative investigative reports that exposed a vast infrastructure of prisons and mass internment camps secretly built by China for detaining hundreds of thousands of Muslims in its restive Xinjiang region.

Rajagopalan from *BuzzFeed News* is among two Indian-origin journalists who won the US's top journalism award on Friday.

Tampa Bay Times' Neil Bedi won for local reporting. Neil Bedi, along with Kathleen McGrory, has been awarded the prize for the series exposing a Sheriff's Office initiative that used computer modelling to identify people believed to be future crime suspects. About 1,000 people were monitored under the programme, including children.

Neil Bedi is an investigative reporter for the *Tampa Bay Times*. "What Kathleen and Neil unearthed in Pasco County has had a profound impact on the community," said Mark Katches, *Times* Executive Editor.

Rajagopalan's Xinjiang series won the Pulitzer Prize in the International Reporting category.

In 2017, not long after China began to detain thousands of Muslims in Xinjiang, Rajagopalan was the first to visit an internment camp — at a time when China denied that such places existed, *BuzzFeed News* said.

"In response, the government tried to silence her, revoking her visa and ejecting her from the country," *BuzzFeed News* wrote in its entry for the prize. "It would go on to cut off access to the entire region for most Westerners and stymie journalists. The release of basic facts about detainees slowed to a trickle."

Working from London, and refusing to be silenced, Rajagopalan partnered with two contributors, Alison Killing, a licensed architect who specialises in forensic analysis of architecture and satellite images of buildings, and Christo Buschek, a programmer who builds tools tailored for data journalists.

"The blazing Xinjiang stories shine desperately needed light on one of the worst human rights abuses of our time," said Mark Schoofs, Editor-in-Chief of *BuzzFeed News*.

Rajagopalan said she was deeply grateful to the teams of people who worked with her on this including her collaborators, Killing and Buschek, her Editor Alex Campbell, *BuzzFeed News*' PR team, and organisations that funded their work, including Pulitzer Centre. She also acknowledged courage of the sources who spoke to them despite risk and threat of retaliation against them and their families.

The three of them set out to analyse thousands of satellite images of the Xinjiang region, an area bigger than Alaska, to try to answer a simple question: Where were Chinese officials detaining as many as 1 million Uyghurs, Kazakhs and other Muslim minorities?

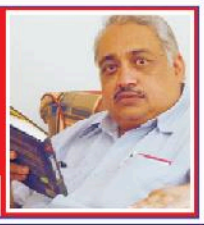
For months, the trio compared censored Chinese images with uncensored mapping software. They began with an enormous dataset of 50,000 locations. Buschek built a custom tool to sort through those images. Then, "the team had to go through thousands of images one by one, verifying many of the sites against other available evidence," *BuzzFeed News* wrote.

They ultimately identified more than 260 structures that appeared to be fortified detention camps. Some of the sites were capable of holding more than 10,000 people and many contained factories where prisoners were forced into labour. The groundbreaking technological reporting was also accompanied by extensive old-fashioned "shoe leather" journalism.

Barred from China, Rajagopalan instead travelled to its neighbour Kazakhstan, where many Chinese Muslims have sought refuge. There, Rajagopalan located more than two dozen people who had been prisoners in Xinjiang camps, winning their trust and convincing them to share their nightmarish accounts with the world.

Pulitzer prizes are awarded yearly in 21 categories. Each winner receives a certificate and a USD 15,000 cash award. The winner in the public service category is awarded a gold medal.

Over a cup of evening Tea



By Dr. K. Javeed Nayeem, MD

Warriors on Two Wheels !

Waiting patiently for their parcels.

Ever since the COVID-19 pandemic started wreaking havoc on people's lives, much is being said about the services of many agencies like the doctors, nurses, ambulance drivers, para-medical staff, Police personnel, Health Department staff and the humble civic service workers. **As we have all seen in the very recent past, our netas and top-level officials somehow manage to find themselves a prime slot in the limelight on their own, without any outside help! It is really sad that mistaking notoriety for fame, some people would rather be seen as notorious than remain unknown!**

But there is a completely different kind of service that is being rendered by another large brigade of very dedicated but humble souls and whose contribution to society we have taken for granted. Nobody talks of them and although we see them dashing around us on their two-wheelers from dawn to dusk, their toil is going completely unnoticed and unrecognised in our society. I am speaking of the thousands of home delivery boys, who run around on their two-wheelers picking up our food packets from their sources and delivering them, hot and steaming, to our doorsteps without our having to step out of the safety of our homes.

Another kind of service that has been started recently is of the same people running errands at our beck and call and getting us even our most ordinary day-to-day household requirements from the shops we specify. They also deliver things from one place to another thus carrying food packets from people's homes to their work places and even from patients' homes to the hospitals where they are admitted. A very remarkable kind of service indeed because it makes our lives so much easier.

Governments across our country have been announcing relief packages to almost all classes and categories of people but we do not hear of any such aid to these souls. Thankfully and very ironically, only COVID has been kind to them! I say this because now that we are all shut in our homes without being able to visit our favourite eating out places, these are the souls who keep us and our children happy and well fed by delivering our favourite dishes to our homes.

So ever since the pandemic started, their work and their earnings too have increased significantly. But along with this have also increased the risk to their lives, both from road accidents and from the greatly increased chances of them picking up the COVID infection itself through widespread contact. And, because they are largely an unorganised class of people, they do not have the shelter of any welfare schemes or any kind of medical insurance to help them in their times of need. This is a lacuna that needs to be addressed by the Government at the earliest.

At least they should all be included under some kind of basic group medical insurance scheme to ensure that they and their families do not find themselves completely helpless if they fall sick. This is of utmost importance because every one of them, without any exception, is in this line of work because they come from very poor families. Most of them do not even have their own vehicles and to earn some money while there is a demand for this kind of work, many of them are managing with vehicles they have hired legally or illegally.

A few of them whom I spoke to said that half of what they earn goes towards the rather high rent they have to pay for their vehicles. A few others said that they were able to hire private vehicles from friends and relatives only because their owners themselves were either working from home or entirely without work due to the lockdown.

So once the lockdown is lifted, they are bound to find themselves on the streets but without the means to earn their livelihood! **Some kind of an arrangement to give them easy bank loans or even some subsidies to procure vehicles would be of great help in keeping them smiling as they go about their jobs helping people to smile!**

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Life-saving business of ambulance-making

After the interior modification, stickers are affixed on the ambulance exteriors.

(Continued from page 1)

108 service not used

Also with the establishment of COVID Care Centres (CCC), critically ill patients have to be transported from the CCCs to the hospitals. The Government 108 ambulance service is not used for COVID purposes due to the contagious nature and stigma attached to the disease and even non-COVID patients and the pregnant had to be brought to hospitals from villages. So naturally there was a dearth of ambulances.

"Moved by the plight of several people who had to wait in uncertainty for the ambulances to getting admitted, I decided to convert vehicles into ambulances. No other vehicles are being used as ambulances because of the fear of this deadly virus. As there was a shortage of ambulances, I decided to convert tourist vehicles," N. Ram Prasad of Ultra Radiums told *Star of Mysore*. He has an outlet in Vidyaranyapuram in city that has a full-fledged fabrication workshop.

Special permission

Permission from the Mysuru District Administration and the administrations of other districts has been obtained considering that it is a lockdown. Earlier, the demand was minimum with only a couple of political parties seeking to convert Tempo Travellers into ambulances. As the demand for vehicles grew, Ram Prasad got orders from other districts and in the last one month, he has converted more than 30 vehicles into ambulances.

He has a team comprising Naga, Ramesh, Raghu and Ajay as welders, Kalim as electrician and Manjunath as the person who does the finer details in fabrication and stickering. "We get the materials through online stores and all the materials are treated as essential service and even the delivery is allowed. I was doing the radium sticker business earlier but as it was an emergency, I chipped in to this conversion," he said.

A majority of the vehicles converted till now (over 20) are Tempo Travellers that were used as tourist carriers. Even Innova and Winger have been transformed. "The seats are removed and the welding work is done to fix foldable beds and place for stretchers by the side. Special containers are created to hold oxygen cylinders and also oxygen concentrators. One vehicle takes two days to be converted and we strictly follow COVID norms at work. We save time taken for painting by pasting radium stickers on vehicles," Ram Prasad said.

"We are here not to make money but serve the society in its hour of need. Conversion usually is an expensive affair but we take only nominal charges after deducting the material prices. Many people have asked us to convert their vehicles permanently into ambulances and some have made ad-hoc arrangements," he added.

Stickering is done on the exterior of Innova vehicle. This way, the hard labour and time of painting is saved.

Good response for mega blood donation in city

Mysuru, June 13 (RKB& SSV)- On the eve of World Blood Donors' Day and also to meet the growing demand for blood in the current COVID crisis, a mega blood donation camp was held to collect 1,008 units of blood in City.

It was also an opportunity for people in the age group of 18 to 50 years, who have not been vaccinated yet, to donate as they cannot donate blood for one month after taking the jab.

Over 500 people had donated blood by noon as against the target of 1,008 units.

The mega camp is organised by Rotary Clubs of Mysuru, Terapanth Yuva Parishat, Human Touch and RGS Group at seven different places between 8 am and 2 pm. Participants in this camp are; JSS Hospital, Kamakshi Hospital, Apollo BGS Hospitals, Chandrakala Hospital, Cauvery Hospital, St. Joseph Hospital and Jeevadhara Blood Banks. This voluntary camp is held at Madhava Shenoy Kalyana Mantap, Venkatalingaiah Kalyana Mantap, Jayamma Govindegowda Kalyana Mantap, Brahmaramba Kalyana Mantap, Kodava Samaja, Kannika Mahal and Terapanth Bhavan.

While Krishnaraja MLA S.A. Ramdas inaugurated the camp at Terapanth Bhavan, Chamaraja MLA L. Nagendra inaugurated it at Kannika Mahal. Akhila Bharat Yuva Terapanth President Ashok, Terapanth Yuva Parishat Mysuru Unit President Dinesh Jain Dak, Rotary Club President Manjesh, Rotary Clubs Community Technical Director Venkatesh, Hare Srinivasa Group President H.K. Gundu Venkateshkumar, Karnataka Exhibition Authority Chairman Hemanth Kumar Gowda, Vikram from Human Touch, S.K. Dinesh from Arya Vysya Rajakiya Samiti and others were present.

'Bring back Rohini Sindhuri' campaign gathers over 1.28 lakh signatures

Mysuru, June 13 (BCT)- The online signature campaign **"Bring back Rohini Sindhuri"** has evoked overwhelming response from netizens and this morning, more than 1.28 lakh people have signed the petition launched on *change.org* till 2.15 pm today.

The campaign was launched by Concerned Citizens of India last Friday on the online signature platform and is being circulated widely on social media asking more and more people to sign to bring back the IAS Officer who has been transferred unceremoniously from Mysuru in just eight months.

She took the alleged land mafia head-on, exposing their murky deals around vast landscapes in Mysuru including encroachment of lakes, Rajakaluve and Government land. The signature campaign has gained huge momentum with every minute at least one person signing for the campaign.

Free jab for 18 to 44 yrs from June 21

Blood Banks likely to face shortage

Mysuru, June 13 (MTY&SSV)- Prime Minister Narendra Modi's announcement of free vaccination for people in 18 to 44 years category from June 21, has caused a great deal of concern for the blood banks in District as major donation of blood comes from this age group.

However, as per medical experts, people cannot donate blood within one month of taking vaccination against COVID-19. That means, the shortage of blood looks imminent till the vaccine takers complete two doses of vaccine. Already, the blood banks in City are feeling the pinch in the last 15 days owing to beginning of the vaccination drive for the population in age group of 18 to 44 years.

Girish, Director, Jeevadhara Blood Bank told *SOM,* "There are nine blood banks in the district on which 70 hospitals depend on these blood banks for their requirements. Mysuru City requires around 150 to 200 units of blood daily. Hitherto, each blood bank used to have the stock of 30-40 units of blood on any given day. But after the vaccination began for 18-44 years category population, the availability of blood was almost nil."

Pointing out that the blood was required in delivery and accident cases, he said that if that age group people go for vaccination, there will be acute shortage of blood in the District. Around 30-40 persons go to various blood banks begging for blood. But it was not available. Earlier, they used to have the adequate stock of A+ve and O+ve blood groups and now even this group blood was not available. Among all nine blood banks, only K.R. Hospital Blood Bank looks comfortable with good stock of blood. The system of exchanging blood among the blood banks has been stopped.

Keeping this in view, a mega blood donation camp was held today. " We are keeping our fingers crossed", Girish said.

Property in Hinkal was legally purchased by me: MLC Vishwanath's son

Amit V. Devarahatti, former Mysuru ZP member and son of BJP MLC A.H. Vishwanath, addressing a press meet at Jaladarshini Guest House on Hunsur road here this morning as MUDA member Naveen Kumar and land owner Vaikuntachari look on.

Mysuru, June 13 (RKB&DM)- Amit Devarahatti, former Mysuru ZP member and son of BJP MLC A.H. Vishwanath, has asserted that the property at Hinkal was duly purchased by him and not encroached upon, as alleged by Karnataka Praja Party (Raitha Parva).

The assertion comes a day after Karnataka Praja Party President Shivanna at a press meet here yesterday, had alleged that Amit had encroached upon a prime land in Hinkal limits.

Addressing a press meet at Jaladarshini Guest House on Hunsur road here this morning, Amit Devarahatti, rubbished the claims of Shivanna that the Hinkal land was encroached upon by him (Amit).

Pointing out that he had legally purchased the land which comes under Hinkal Survey No. 7/B from the property owner Vaikuntacahri in 2017, Amit said that one Yogesh Kumar had lodged a complaint against him (Amit) saying that he (Yogesh) had purchased the said land in 2015 itself.

Following Yogesh's complaint, the matter is now in the Court and as such he cannot talk much about the land deal.

"I was forced to call this press meet as Shivanna had targeted my father MLC Vishwanath with an intent of tarnishing his image. The land was legally purchased by me and I have all the necessary documents to prove it", he maintained.

Claiming that the Hinkal Gram Panchayat, after scrutiny of records, had issued him 11/B document certification in respect of the said land, Amit said that he has been paying Tax for the land in his name since 2018, which is enough proof to say that the land is owned by him.

But with Yogesh's complaint, the dispute has landed in the Court and now Shivanna, by making false land encroachment allegations was unfairly targeting his father, he contended.

MUDA member Naveen Kumar and the land owner Vaikuntachari were present at the press meet.

UoM fake answer sheet racket case

All six accused to appear for enquiry on June 22

Mysuru, June 13 (RK&KS)- The Internal Committee of the University of Mysore has issued notices to those accused in the answer script racket to appear before it on June 22 for enquiry.

Internal Committee head Prof. A.P. Jnanaprakash, who is also the Registrar (Evaluation) of Mysore University told *Star of Mysore* that notices have been served to the accused— Rakesh, owner of META-I, which had taken the responsibility of supplying and protecting answer papers, students Chandan and Chetan, Mohammed Nisar, the man behind the crime, Maharani's Science College Principal and others — to appear before the Internal Committee on June 22.

Prof. Janaprakash also said that a complaint has been lodged at Lakshmipuram Police Station urging for a probe and added that as the case is being investigated by the CCB, the accused in the racket will not escape.

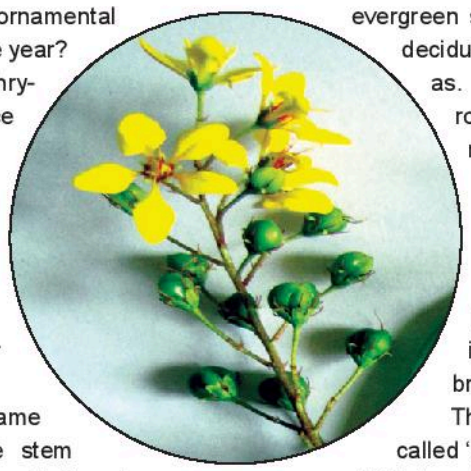
Varsity clarifies

Meanwhile, Varsity Registrar Prof. A.P. Jnanaprakash has clarified that based on the FIR by Mandi Police, only Mohammed Nisar, a Second Division Assistant at Maharani's Science College, META-I owner Rakesh, students Chandan and Chetan and Mandi Inspector Narayanaswamy have been named and no staff of Mysore University were part of the racket.

Golden Thryallis

A GRACEFUL SHRUB

Looking for a charming ornamental shrub with blooms round the year? Then opt for the 'Golden Thryallis', a gorgeous low-maintenance ornamental shrub. True to its name, this graceful shrub provides golden touch to any garden with its numerous yellow racemes and glittering foliage. It is also called 'Golden Touch', 'Golden Shower', 'Slender Gold Shower', 'Rain of Gold' or 'Canary bush'.



The plant has also earned the name 'Ice plant' because of the brittle stem which snaps like an 'icicle' (if mishandled) and glistening foliage icy appearance. The botanical name is Galphimia gracilis (Syn. Galphimia glauca, Thryallis brasiliensis, Thryallis glauca, Thryallis gracilis) of Malpighiaceae family.

The plant, native to Mexico and Guatemala, is an evergreen shrub under tropical conditions but deciduous when planted in cooler areas. It grows up to 6 ft. tall into a neat rounded bush with a dense twiggy mass. Stems are slender & reddish; hairy when young. Leaves are elliptical to oval-shaped with two visible glands at the base. They are opposite in position, light green to bluish, smooth or waxy. The petioles (stalk) are reddish or reddish brown similar to stems.

The inflorescence in floral clusters called 'racemes' (a type of inflorescence in which the older flowers are at the bottom) are terminal. The small flowers with 5 petals are yellow with reddish centres dot the foliage like mini stars. The flower petals do not drop completely after maturing. Interestingly, three part capsules grow above them. These tiny fruits are oval shaped and green coloured.

GARDENING

This elegant plant can be grown in all types of soil. However, sandy loam with rich organic content is ideal. The recommended soil mixture is 1:1:2 (sand + soil + farmyard manure). Adding liberal doses of vermicompost or leaf mould is advantageous. The plant is generally free from pests. However, it is rarely affected by caterpillars and mites, which can be overcome by spraying neem-based bio-pesticides. The plant can be propagated either by seeds or stem cuttings. Germinate the seeds in bottom pots using sand and leaf mould under moist conditions. Sow the seeds while still green and water regularly. Transplant seedlings (one-month-old) into 6" pots and later on to pots of bigger size or on to the ground. Plants raised from seeds flower in the second year. For propagating plants from cuttings, use mature stems of 3" to 4" size. Dipping the cut end in root hormone powder ensures good success. Stem cuttings root properly under moist conditions.

TREE FACTS

USEFUL TIPS

- This versatile plant with multiple uses is a good candidate for low maintenance landscaping.
- The loose, open natural growth habit of the plant is also ideal for informal planting.
- It can be grown in pots, window boxes and patios.
- One can mass the shrub for ground cover around trees, as background plant in garden beds, formal hedge and for topiary.
- It makes an excellent specimen plant too when planted in a corner of the lawn.
- The plant prefers well-drained soil and bright sunlight, though semi shade is preferred during hot summer. However, when grown in shady locations it develops gangly open habit.
- It needs pruning to keep from being too leggy. Pruning in the early rain keeps the plant in good shape and the new shoots bear large racemes of flower. However, the sheared plants often thin out at the bottom but picks up quickly.

- I have observed in my home garden that it is a self-sowing garden plant. I mean it drops the seed capsules and few seeds germinate and grow into adult plants.
- The pretty flowers of Thryallis attract birds such as hummingbirds, bees, butterflies and other pollinators.
- In my view, this undemanding graceful shrub is a cheerful and glistening addition to your collection of plants bringing more colour and body to the garden.

Text & photographs by
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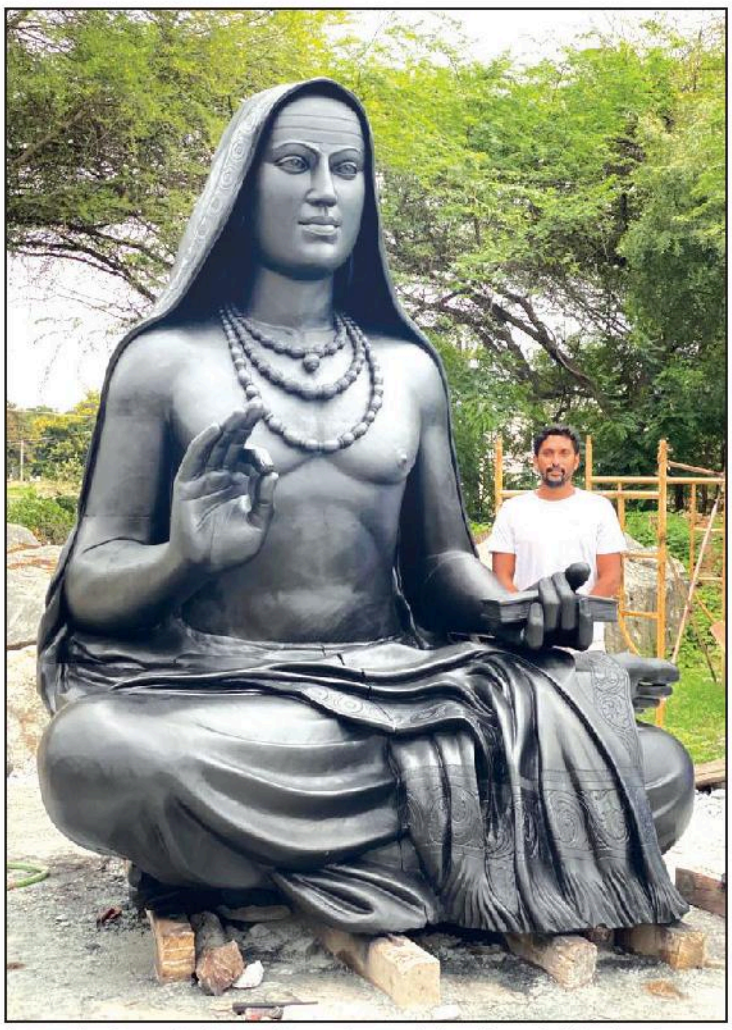
City sculptor carves 12-ft. statue of 'Adi Shankaracharya'

To be installed in Kedarnath of Uttarakhand

Yogiraj



Mysuru, June 13 (SBD&SSV)- The city-based sculptor, Arun Yogiraj has carved a 12-ft. tall statue of Adi Shankaracharya which will be installed at Kedarnath in Uttarakhand soon. Final touches are being given to the statue and it will be transported to Uttarakhand in truck on June 17.

A resident of Agrahara, Yogiraj, and his nine assistants, have been working on this statue for the last seven months. The statue of Shankaracharya will be installed in the proposed 'Sri Shankaracharya Study Chair and Museum' in Kedarnath where the Saint's Samadhi is built.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has proposed this project. The sculptors from across the country were invited to carve the statue and many of them including four from Karnataka had shown interest. However, Yogiraj was selected for this project. The PM was impressed with a two-feet statue of Adi Shankaracharya carved by Yogiraj and directed the authorities concerned to issue him with work order in September 2020. Subsequently, the work was started.

Now, the 12-ft. tall statue of Adi Shankaracharya in sitting posture is ready. A particular variety of Krishna Shile (black stone) has been used to carve this statue as it can withstand the vagaries of nature. The same kind of stone has been used in carving the sculptures in world-famous Belur-Halebidu temples. "We are going along with the statue for its installation," Yogiraj told *SOM*.

Corporator B.V. Manjunath and localites Subhash, Gururaj Shenoy, Chandraprakash, Venkatesh, Mahesh and others have congratulated Yogiraj who also has the credit of carving out the statues of Jayachamaraja Wadiyar, Ramakrishna Paramahamsa and others. "Yogiraj has brought laurels to city by carving out the statue of Shankaracharya", said Manjunath.

Hunsur taluk records 2,174 COVID cases in a week

Mysuru, June 13 -The week long' Vaidyara Nade- Halliya Kade' (Doctors' march to villages) initiative of the Government for containing the spread of the deadly COVID-19 pandemic, has been a success in Hunsur, with the detection of 2,174 cases in the taluk.

A team of doctors visited three villages in the taluk everyday during the week-long initiative, during which a total of 3,469 people with symptoms were tested, out of which 2,174 tested positive for the virus.

Symptomatic patients, who tested positive, have been admitted at the COVID Care Centres set up at Sabbanahalli, Dharmapura and a few other places in the taluk.

MLA blames previous DC for rise in COVID cases in district

K.R. Nagar, June 13- JD(S) MLA from K.R. Nagar S.R. Mahesh has blamed previous Deputy Commissioner (DC) Rohini Sindhuri for the rise in COVID cases in the district.

Addressing a Task Force meeting at Taluk Panchayat (TP) office in the town on Friday, Mahesh alleged that the previous DC used to take unilateral decisions, ignoring the importance of consulting the Zilla Panchayat (ZP) CEO and other top officials. He argued that the DC is to be blamed for the sudden surge in cases and rise in fatality rates.

Asking the Health Department officials to trace primary contacts of COVID patients, the MLA maintained that positive cases in the taluk would not have risen sharply had the authorities ensured that all asymptomatic patients were under home quarantine.

Directing the civic authorities to sanitise all lanes and bylanes in villages across the taluk, he stressed on the need for maintaining hygiene and cleanliness in every village.

Tahsildar S. Santosh, Town Municipal Council (TMC) Member K.L. Jagadish, Taluk Health Officer (THO) Dr. K.R. Mahendrappa, Backward Classes & Minorities (BCM) Officer B.J. Mahesh, Taluk Social Welfare Officer S.M. Ashok Kumar and others were present.

Would not mind if Rohini is made the Investigating Officer

Later speaking to press persons, Mahesh said that he has no objection for transferred Mysuru DC Rohini Sindhuri to become the Investigating Officer for alleged land scams.

Lashing out at MLC A.H. Vishwanath for making comments against him, he questioned Vishwanath's motive behind supporting previous Mysuru DC Rohini Sindhuri.

Claiming that a land-grabbing case is pending against Vishwanath's son Amit Devarahatti, he wondered what Vishwanath would say if organisations demand a probe into Amit's land deals.

DC visits H.D. Kote, reviews COVID situation

H.D. Kote, June 13 (Manju& DM)- With the taluk recording a spike in the number of COVID positive cases, Deputy Commissioner Dr. Bagadi Gautham visited H.D. Kote yesterday and inspected the General Hospital, COVID Care Centre and COVID Mitra centre in the town.

Speaking to presspersons, Dr. Gautham said that home isolated patients must mandatorily stay in homes and not come out for any reason. Pointing out that public movement of positive patients will only help in spreading the virus, often leading to fatalities, he took the Taluk Health Officer Dr. Ravikumar to task for not shifting those under home isolation to General Hospital and COVID Care Centres despite direction issued in this regard. He instructed the officials to immediately shift more than 300 home isolated patients in the taluk to COVID Care Centre.

Later, the DC visited Ekalavya COVID Care Centre, where he enquired the patients about their health, the food being provided and medical treatment. Some patients complained about mosquito menace and lack of hot water. The DC directed the Task Force Committee members, who had accompanied him, to address the problems.

MLA Anil Chikkmadu, Assistant Commissioner Veena, Tahsildar Nargund, Taluk Panchayat EO Ramalingaiah, THO Dr. Ravikumar, Dy.SP Raviprasad, CPI Rajendra and other officials were present.

Later, Dr. Bagadi Gautham visited Sonahalli tribal hamlet in the taluk, where he asked the vaccine-hesitant tribals to get vaccinated for the deadly virus. The tribals demanded a good vaccine, to which the DC said that the tribals would get the same vaccine that the President and the Prime Minister of India have got.

Pointing out that there is no discrimination whatsoever in vaccinating the population of the country, he assured the tribals that there are no side effects of the jab and as such everyone of them should get vaccinated for their own health and safety.

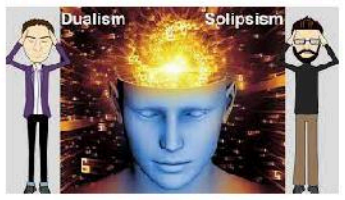
The DC further said that based on a request by MLA Anil Chikkamadu, the Government has decided to provide nutrient-rich food to tribals throughout the year.

Channappa, a tribal leader of the hamlet, said that the Government is providing Rs. 4,000 relief to only those who have RTC. He sought the relief to everyone who does not have RTC. Bhagya, another resident, complained about lack of civic amenities in the hamlet. The DC directed the local PDO to take measures for constructing toilets.

After hearing all the complaints and grievances, he said that he had come only for an assessment of COVID situation in the taluk and assured of visiting them once again to address their problems. Dr. Bagadi Gautham later visited Bavali at Karnataka-Kerala border, where he directed the officials to ensure strict compliance of COVID appropriate behaviour by everyone.

WORD OF THE DAY

Solipsism



Pronunciation: SOH-lip-sih-zum.
Meaning: A theory holding that the self can know nothing but its own modifications and that the self is the only existent thing; also : extreme egocentrism.
Origin: French philosopher René Descartes (1596-1650) can be blamed for the idea that if one whittles away beliefs about which one cannot be certain, one will eventually land at the existence of the self as a singular certainty; however, he cannot be blamed for either the word solipsism or the theory it refers to. (Descartes avoided falling into solipsism by positing that ideas known with the same clarity as the existence of the self is known must also be true.) Philosophical application of the word likely owes something to the French translation of a satiric work written by Venetian scholar Giulio Clemente Scotti in 1645 called Monarchia Solipsorum —in French, La Monarchie des Solipses. The pertinent term is a composite of the Latin solus ("alone") and ipse ("self").
Example: "The solipsism born of social distancing and months of relative confinement leads me to see everything in relation to my current problem, which is online kindergarten." — Lydia Kiesling, The New Yorker, 5 Oct. 2020.

THE ODD WORD

Salsipotent
Ruling the salt seas.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Seek and you shall find

Meaning: The proverbial saying 'Seek and you shall find' means, in the Biblical sense, 'come to God and your prayers will be answered. In a wider literal sense it just means 'effort will be rewarded'.
Origin: 'Seek and you shall find' or, as it is usually written in old texts, 'seek and ye shall find' is from the Bible, Matthew 7:7-8.The King James Version of the text is: Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

QUOTE BOX

Winning isn't everything, but wanting to win is.—**Vince Lombardi**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

Answer: Upside down.

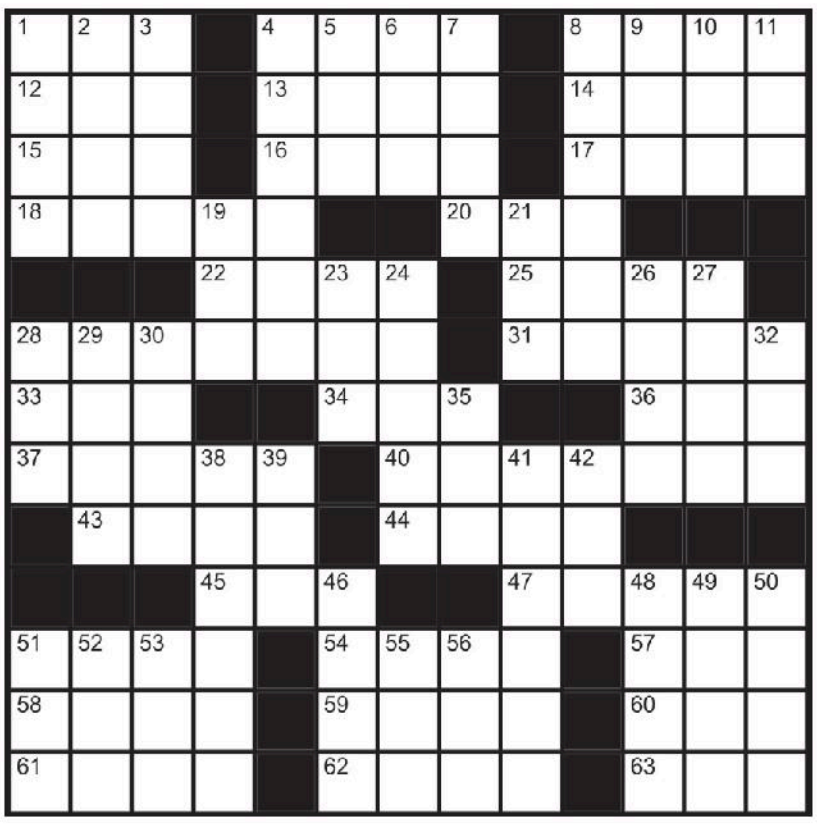
CROSS WORD

ACROSS:
1 Lic. in Med. & Surg.
4 Called
8 Mould into shape
12 Org. of African Unity
13 An Arab prince
14 Mosque leader
15 Everybody
16 Mumbai suburb
17 Ex-Tennis champ Arthur ___
18 Woodwind instrument
20 Storage container
22 Got a hole in one
25 Swindle or rip-off
28 Royal rod
31 Four as a prefix
33 At high temperature
34 Inland Rev. Serv.
36 9th letter of the Hebrew alphabet
37 Not very old
40 Display of daring
43 Legal right
44 Hindu ascetic
45 Large cask
47 A number
51 Single digit
54 Unsecretive
57 Alsace assent
58 Intense enthusiasm
59 Requirement
60 Grow old
61 "Last Days of Pompeii" role
62 Famous volcano
63 "The" in German

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

I	L	A	■	S	S	E	S	■	■	M	E	T
O	E	D	■	A	W	A	K	E	■	A	B	U
C	H	I	■	R	A	T	I	O	■	J	O	G
■	■	P	R	I	G	■	■	N	E	O	N	■
E	B	O	N	■	■	A	P	I	A	R	Y	■
I	T	S	A	■	P	I	L	A	U	■	■	■
S	U	E	■	R	A	D	O	N	■	S	O	U
■	■	■	S	H	E	E	T	■	Y	A	W	N
■	A	C	R	O	S	S	■	■	S	P	E	D
■	P	R	I	M	■	■	D	I	L	L	■	■
A	P	E	■	B	R	E	E	D	■	I	M	A
O	L	A	■	S	A	L	V	O	■	N	O	N
G	Y	M	■	■	E	M	I	L	■	G	A	P

DOWN
1 Lounge around
2 Shopping complex
3 Enterprise helmsman
4 Turn down
5 Atomic mass unit
6 Not Invented Here, acronym
7 Garden denizen
8 Man engaged to wed
9 On-Board Maintenance Sys.
10 Interjection used to cheer the team?
11 Mrs in Marseille
19 Light knock
21 First in short
23 Gad's son?
24 Match between local rivals
26 Indian wheaten flour
27 TV's talking horse
28 Bashful or timid
29 ___ off: calm down
30 Needle-case used by a woman
32 Start of a vol. 1 heading
35 Standing Room Only, abbr.
38 Stinging-plant
39 Wildebeest
41 Things to be done?
42 Roman seven
46 Naught, nil or nothing
48 Spur; incite
49 Enormous
50 Stadium section
51 Israeli gun
52 Modern: pref.
53 ____ Healy : Australian wicket-keeper in Mark Taylor's team?
55 Make a fuss of
56 Even, contracted by a poet ?



SUDOKU

		7			6		9	1
				7		5		
	4				9			
	1		8				7	
9				5				8
	6				7		5	
			1				6	
		6		3				
8	5		2			1		

Answer to previous puzzle

1	5	2	7	3	8	6	4	9
8	6	7	5	4	9	3	1	2
9	3	4	6	2	1	8	7	5
5	1	3	4	6	7	9	2	8
6	2	8	1	9	3	4	5	7
7	4	9	8	5	2	1	6	3
4	9	1	2	8	5	7	3	6
3	7	5	9	1	6	2	8	4
2	8	6	3	7	4	5	9	1

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

MQPBP YI LNMQYLO IN XIPEPII UI KNYLO PRRYDYPLMEF

MQUM TQYDQ IQNXEK LNM ZP KNLP UM UEE.

TODAY'S CLUE: O EQUALS G

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I'd rather work with someone who's good at their job but doesn't like me, than someone who likes me but is a ninny.

JSS Mahavidyapeetha team visits JK Tyre's Raghupati Singhania Centre of Excellence

Mysuru, June 13- The Top Management Team members of JSS Mahavidyapeetha (JSS MVP), Mysuru, visited JK Tyre's Global Technology and R&D Centre 'Raghupati Singhania Centre of Excellence' (RPSCoE) here on June 11.

The objective of the visit was to see the research facilities at HASETRI (Hari Shankar Singhania Elastomer and Tyre Research Institute) and similar type of miniature project which is coming up at Dr. D. Banerjee Centre of Excellence (DBCoE) for Rubber Technology Education, Training, Testing, Research and Skill Development at JSS Science and Technology University campus, Mysuru.

President of JSS MVP, Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji, along with the team members of JSS MVP, went around JK Tyre R&D Centre accompanied by Dr. R. Mukhopadhyay, Director & CE, HASETRI and Senior Scientist Team.

The Swamiji and his entire JSS MVP team, accompanied by Dr. C.G. Betsurmath, Dr. B. Suresh, Prof. Mahadeva Swamy, Prof. Dhanraj and M.S. Sarpabhushan appreciated the efforts of JK Tyre Management in bringing the state-of-the-art testing research facility for tyre and elastomers.

Swamiji wished to support more training and skill development activities in Rubber and Plastic sector in collaboration with JSS MVP in the days to come.

Intl. experts discuss COVID-19 in India at CII-Young Indians round table session

'Innovation, information and reducing inequity of care only way to be one step ahead of the virus'

Mysuru, June 13- The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Mysuru Zone - Young Indians (Yi), Mysuru Chapter, hosted a virtual round table session "Beyond the 2nd Wave of COVID-19 in India" on June 5. Experts from WHO, Israel, Singapore, UK, USA and India took part in the session.

The round table recognised how India, despite its constraints, has overcome the pandemic. The session helped assimilate key learnings from other nations which have dealt with the impact of the pandemic earlier would help Yi build an actionable plan on the way forward for the stakeholders.

Smita Agarwal, National Chair, CII-Yi, said "the virtual round table was curated to initiate a dialogue on the role of youths, with special focus on actions and behaviour that the youth across the country can initiate and lead over the next 6 months as the world and India recalibrates to combat COVID and sustain economic growth."

Delivering the keynote address, Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Chief Scientist, World Health Organisation (WHO) said, "If you neglect health then everything can come to a standstill and collapse. Both physical and mental health is central and that mental health has been disproportionally affected by the current pandemic. New innovations need to be initiated by the talented youths as they are the future and they need to have a say. Their ideas need to be embraced, assessed, validated and scaled by policy makers."

Prof. Leo Yee-Sin, Executive Director, National Centre for Infectious Diseases, Singapore, reiterated the importance of vaccination. "The important aspects of Singapore's COVID preparedness for the pandemic included enhanced surveillance, active case finding, containment and reduced importation."

Dr. Adini Wiesel Bruria, Head of the Department, Emergency Management and Disaster Medicine, Tel Aviv University, shared an interesting insight: "In Israel, the young population between 31 and 40 years was more concerned about the economic issues and health concerns by COVID-19 than the elderly."

"Educationally there has been a huge loss of learning. When some were able to learn at home with the technology, many were not which has created immense inequality," Dr. Paul Roderick, Professor, Public Health, University of Southampton, commented from the European experience.

Dr. Vidya Sundareshan, Professor and Chief, Infectious Diseases, SIU School of Medicine, Illinois, shared a 3-pronged plan of "Acknowledging that vaccine hesitancy is a worldwide reality, adapting all policies as relevant to the local population is a must with eliminating disinformation infodemic."

Dr. Jacob John, Professor, Community Medicine, Christian Medical College, Vellore, brought the India context and specific to children: "Children have a small but definite risk. Teaching them to comply with masking is challenging, but even partial compliance will help. Until significant numbers are vaccinated, we need to be cautious with opening schools and ensure they get exercise and keep them outdoors as much as possible."

The virtual round table culminated with Diah Samarsih, Youth Envoy of the DG WHO, stressing that organisations working with youths need to be central to the policy and advocacy.

CII-Yi is a movement for Indian youths to converge, lead, co-create and influence India's future. Formed in 2002, Yi has over 3,600 direct members in 55 chapters and 29,500 students YUVA members from colleges. Yi membership includes young entrepreneurs, professionals and achievers from different walks of life. Through impactful projects and activities under "Youth Leadership", "Nation-Building" and "Thought Leadership", Yi hopes to emerge as a premier Indian Youth Organisation and play an important role in nation-building.

Mass vaccination camp by JK Tyre & Industries Ltd.

Mysuru, June 13- JK Tyre & Industries Ltd., one of the prestigious Tyre Manufacturing Companies located at Mysuru, has got three Plants and one state-of-the-art Research and Development Centre functioning in Metagalli and Hebbal Industrial Area in Mysuru.

During this COVID-19 pandemic, apart from various other measures benefiting the society at large, the company had taken a big initiative of organising a Mass Vaccination Camp covering around 4,500 people.

Vuppu Eswara Rao, Vice-President (Works), along with Vikram Hebbar, GM-HR&IR and Plant Head, Rajeev Kumar, GM-Prod. Plant-1, addressed the employees on the occasion and motivated them to take part in the vaccination drive.

G.V. Somesha, General Secretary of Vikrant Tyre Employees' Union, along with other office-bearers, were also present.

Besides this week-long Mass Vaccination Camp, the company has also taken up various other initiatives to support the District Administration in providing health infrastructure in Mysuru, nearby Taluks and Gram Panchayats by providing necessary facilities at the District COVID Hospital, COVID War Rooms, Primary Health Centres, Srirangapatna COVID Care Centres.

FRENCH OPEN 2021
FINALS

TODAY'S MATCHES (June 13)

WOMEN'S DOUBLES

> 14 Iga Świątek & Bethanie Mattek-Sands
Vs 2 Barbora Krejčíková & Kateřina Siniaková **3.00 pm**

MEN'S SINGLES

> 1 Novak Djokovic
Vs 5 StefanosTsitsipas **6.30 pm**

Catch live actions on STAR SPORTS SELECT

Krejcikova wins maiden Grand Slam singles

Barbora Krejcikova

Paris, June 13- Barbora Krejcikova won her maiden Grand Slam singles title at the French Open on Saturday, beating Russia's Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova to become the first Czech woman in 40 years to conquer Roland Garros.

Krejcikova, ranked 33 in the world and playing just her fifth main draw in a Slams singles event, triumphed 6-1, 2-6, 6-4 for a second career title.

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— Management

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Employment Notice No.LAB SUP/07/Covid-19/2021
Walk-in-Interview for Lab Superintendent

South Western Railway, Mysuru Division proposes to engage full time Lab Superintendent for a period of 03 months; on contract basis on Covid-19 account for Mysuru Division, SWR subject to following terms and conditions.

1. Name of the post: Lab Superintendent 2. Age: 18 to 33 years as on 07.06.2021 3. No. of Vacancies: 02 posts 4. Place at which service required: Railway Hospital, Mysuru. 5. Registration: A. Online registration (Preferred) open the link below https://forms.gle/xCsBvffCdIrYuCVx5A B. Spot Registration / Walk-in - At the venue on 17/06/2021, 10:00 HRS onwards 6. Venue and Date of Walk-in-Interview: Office of the Senior Divisional Personnel Officer, Divisional Railway Manager's Office, Irwin Road, Mysuru 7. Date & Time of Walk-in-Interview: 17/06/2021 from 11.00 hrs onwards upto 17:00 hrs 8. Honorarium: Rs. 35,400/- plus DA & other allowances admissible.

For details log on: www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in (Link About us-divisions-Mysuru-Personnel Branch-notification/selections)

Senior Divisional Personnel Officer
Mysuru

Government of India
Department of Atomic Energy
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
Advanced Machines Division
Yelwal, Mysore - 571130 Tel: 0821-2406604/6523/6201 .Fax : 0821-240 3064

BRIEF TENDER NOTICE

Tender No : BARC/MYS/AM/RM/2021/WT-69

Superintending Engineer BARC, Mysuru invites on behalf of President of India sealed item rate tenders from experienced Contractor with sound financial &technical capacity for following works:

Description	Details
Name of the Work	Operation of High Vacuum Heat-Treatment Furnaces under departmental supervision at BARC site, Mysuru.
Estimated Cost	₹ **4,30,000/-** (Rupees Four Lakh Thirty Thousand only)
Completion Period	**12 (Twelve) months**
Earnest Money	**Nil,** Pre Bid-Security Declaration as per the format attached
Cost of Tender Document	₹ **500/-** (Rupees Five hundred only) Non-Refundable
Sale of Tender Documents	From: **14/06/2021** to **24/06/2021** between **11.00 hours to 16.00 hours**
Due date & time for submission of Tender	**25/06/2021** at **15.00 hrs**
Date & time of opening of Tender	**25/06/2021** at **15.30 hrs**
Place of Tender Submission	Tender Box having Identification No.3 at Bldg. No.2
Place of Tender opening	O/o Pay & Accounts Officer, BARC, Bldg.No.2

Sd/- **Superintending Engineer**
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
For & on behalf of the President of India

Government of India
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
Post Bag no. 1. Yelwal, Mysuru 571 130
Telephone:0821-2406477 | Fax:0821-2403064 Date:9/06/2021

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

On line item rate tender in two parts i.e Part-A techno-commercial cum pre qualification bid and Part-Bfinancial bid are hereby invited through e-tendering mode on behalf of The President of India by The Superintending Engineer, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mysore for the following work from the eligible contractor having adequate experience and capabilities in similar work.

Tender Reference No.	**BARC/AMD/MMS/DK/21/01**
Name of work	Surface preparation, component cleaning assembly and allied works atBARC, Mysuru
Estimated Cost	₹ .**12,50,000/-** (Rupees twelve lakh fifty thousand only)
Period of Completion	**18 Calendar month**
Earnest Money Deposit	Nil, Bid security declaration may please be provided as per the format
Security Deposit	2.5% of tendered value
Performance Guarantee	3.0% of tendered value
Tender Sale Period	From **14/06/2021 (11.00 hrs)** To **23/06/2021 (16.00 hrs)**
Due date & Time for online submission of tender	**02/07/2021 at 15.00 hrs**

Interested tenderers may please refer detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details which can be down loaded from website **www.tenderwizard.com/dae**
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